



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

DEAN D. EFSTATHIOU, Acting Director

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331
Telephone: (626) 458-5100
<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1460
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: **WR-4**

September 9, 2008

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**AWARD WEATHER FORECASTING SERVICES AGREEMENT
(All SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

This action is to award and authorize the Los Angeles County Flood Control District to enter into a consultant services agreement with North American Weather Consultants, Inc., to provide weather forecasting services to assist in flood control and water conservation efforts for the upcoming storm season.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY
OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT:**

Award and delegate authority to the Acting Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District or his designee to enter into a consultant services agreement with North American Weather Consultants, Inc., for weather forecasting services for the 2008-09 storm season for a not-to-exceed fee of \$40,000. The agreement includes the option to extend the service for two additional one-year terms for \$40,000 each and a maximum aggregate not-to-exceed fee of \$120,000.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended action is to retain North American Weather Consultants, Inc., to provide weather forecasts tailored to the Los Angeles County Flood Control District's operational needs. Rainfall forecasts will be provided for key locations, and special consultations will be provided during intense storm monitoring. This information is vital to Public Works in making flood control and water conservation operational decisions.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provision of Organizational Effectiveness (Goal 3) by allowing efficient and effective use of consultants and Public Safety (Goal 8) by providing weather forecast information used to direct stormwater management activities and ensure the safe operation of flood control facilities.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact to the County General Fund. The cost for these services is for a not-to-exceed annual fee of \$40,000 with the option to extend the services for two additional one-year terms for \$40,000 each and a maximum aggregate not-to-exceed fee of \$120,000. Financing for the first year of this service is included in the Fiscal Year 2008-09 Flood Control District Budget. Any remaining authorization within the not-to-exceed fee will be budgeted in the Flood Fund Budget in future years.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The agreement and the project specifications contain provisions requiring the contractor to comply with the terms and conditions supporting your Board's ordinances, policies, and programs, including but not limited to: County's Greater Avenues for Independence and General Relief Opportunities for Work Programs (GAIN and GROW), Board Policy No. 5.050; Contract Language to Assist in Placement of Displaced County Workers, Board Policy No. 5.110; Reporting of Improper Solicitations, Board Policy No. 5.060; Notice to Contract Employees of Newborn Abandonment Law (Safely Surrendered Baby Law), Board Policy No. 5.135; Contractor Employee Jury Service Program, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.203; Notice to Employees Regarding the Federal Earned Income Credit (Federal Income Tax Law, Internal Revenue Service Notice 1015); Contractor Responsibility and Debarment, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.202; the Los Angeles County's Child Support Compliance Program, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.200; and the standard Board-directed clauses that provide for agreement termination or renegotiation.

The agreement and project specifications contain provisions requiring the consultant to report solicitations of improper consideration by County employees and allowing the County to terminate the contract if it is found that the consultant offered or gave improper consideration to County employees.

A standard consultant services agreement, previously approved as to form by County Counsel, will be used. The standard Board-directed clauses that provide for contract termination, renegotiation, hiring qualified displaced County employees, and the option to extend the services for two additional one-year terms will be included.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

In accordance with Section 15378 (b) (5) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, approval of the recommended action does not constitute a project and, hence, is not subject to the requirements of CEQA.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

Request for Proposals to provide weather forecasting services was issued to 19 consulting firms. Four proposals were received. An evaluation committee, comprised of staff from Public Works, evaluated the proposals and determined North American Weather Consultants is the best qualified, responsible proposer providing the best overall value for the proposal. The evaluation was based on technical expertise, experience, personnel qualifications, and an understanding of the work requirements. The evaluation was completed without regard to race, creed, color, or gender. As requested by your Board on February 3, 1998, this agreement opportunity was listed on the County's "Doing Business with Us" website.

Participation by Community Business Enterprises (CBEs) in these services is encouraged through Public Works' CBE Outreach Program and the requirement that consultants demonstrate their good faith efforts to utilize CBEs. North American Weather Consultants is aware of Public Works' CBE Outreach Program, and its proposed CBE participation is on file with Public Works.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
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IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The weather forecasting services will provide vital information for Public Works to make flood control and water conservation operational decisions throughout the storm season.

CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Department of Public Works, Water Resources Division.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rod Kuborn" followed by a stylized flourish and the text "for DE".

DEAN D. EFSTATHIOU
Acting Director of Public Works

DDE:RHK:yg

Attachment

c: Chief Executive Office
County Counsel
Department of Public Social Services (GAIN/GROW Program)

Bid Detail Information

Bid Number : WRDM00024
Bid Title : Request for Proposals - Weather Forecasting Services
Bid Type : Service
Department : Public Works
Commodity : WEATHER FORECASTING SERVICES
Open Date : 4/29/2008
Closing Date : 5/27/2008 5:00 PM
Bid Amount : N/A
Bid Download : Not Available
Bid Description : The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works is requesting proposals from qualified firms to provide weather forecasting services. The purpose of weather forecasting services is to provide rainfall predictions vital for making decisions regarding water conservation and flood control operations at Public Works' dams and groundwater recharge facilities.
Proposals must be addressed and submitted to the Department of Public Works, Architectural Engineering Division, 900 South Fremont Avenue, 8th Floor, Alhambra, California 91803, attention Ms. Ivonne Pena, no later than May 27, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. Envelopes should be marked "Weather Forecasting Services".
You may request a copy of the RFP by emailing ipena@dpw.lacounty.gov.
Contact Name : Ivonne Pena
Contact Phone# : (626) 458-2585
Contact Email : ipena@dpw.lacounty.gov
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